

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 02081 070952Z

11 L
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SY-10 CPR-02 RSC-01 DRC-01 /049 W
----- 089478
P 070920Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 403

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, (RUSH)
SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THAILAND

REF: A. STATE E. BANGKOK 1209
 B. STATE 23875 F. BANGKOK 1148
 C. STATE 23371 G. STATE 8031
 D. STATE 22529 H. STATE 252131 OF 30 DECEMBER 1973

1. WE RECOMMEND ONLY A DEPARTURE STATEMENT WITH A TEXT WHICH
UNDERScores THE FRANK AND CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETINGS WITH
RTG OFFICIALS. WE WILL FORWARD A TEXT SEPTEL.

2. WE DO NOT ADVISE A DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE.

3. DESPITE PERSISTENT QUERIES, WE HAVE NO READING YET ON WHETHER THE
RTG PREFERS JOINT OR SEPARATE CALLS ON THE PRIME AND FOREIGN
MINISTERS. ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL'S FEBRUARY 6 CALL,
HOWEVER, WAS JOINT, AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S MAY BE SCHEDULED
THE SAME WAY.

4. THE NINETY MINUTE GAP IN THE SCHEDULE MARCH 6 WAS AN
EXCESSIVE CONCESSION TO BANGKOK TRAFFIC, BUT IT HAS SNARLED
CONSIDERABLY SINCE GEORGE ROBERT'S TOUR HERE. BECAUSE THE
RTG HAS NOT YET CONFIRMED THE APPOINTMENTS WITH THE PRIME AND
FOREIGN MINISTERS, ALL TIMES THE MORNING OF MARCH 6 ARE
TENTATIVE. WE WILL INSURE THAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY DOES NOT
LINGER AT THE AIRPORT.

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5. GUEST LISTS ARE AWAITING THE DETERMINATION OF WHETHER THE RTG OR

THE USG WILL BE HOSTING WHICH FUNCTION. THE RTG MAY WISH TO HOST ONE FUNCTION. THE MORE LIKELY WOULD BE THE DINNER MARCH 5. WE CONSIDER IT UNLIKELY THAT THE RTG WOULD HOST A LUNCH MARCH BECAUSE TUESDAYS ARE CABINET DAYS, BUT WE CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY. WE WILL FORWARD THE GUEST LISTS, ALONG WITH GUIDELINES FOR THE TOAST, AS SOON AS WE LEARN.

6. MRS. RUSCH'S SCHEDULE DEPENDS ON THE EXTENT OF HER SHOPPING INTERESTS. SILK, GEM STONES, HEAVY COTTON AND SOME ANTIQUES ARE BEST BANGKOK BARGAINS. BRONZEWARE AND HILL TRIBE HANDICRAFTS ARE ALSO POPULAR ITEMS. CONSIDERING THE TRAFFIC, A REASONABLY UNHURRIED SHOPPING EXPEDITION COULD CONSUME MOST OF HER FREE TIME. WE WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND VISITS, IF TIME IS AVAILABLE, TO THE JIM THOMPSON HOUSE AND/OR SUAN PRAKAT PALACE FOR A CONCENTRATED AND ATTRACTIVE DISPLAY OF THAI ARTIFACTS. OTHERWISE WE WOULD HOPE THAT MRS. RUSH COULD ATTEND BOTH THE LUNCH AT THE RESIDENCE AND THE DINNER MARCH 5.
KINTNER

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